

SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT  
OF 2023

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 82) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

The Senator from Alaska.

THE CALENDAR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: Calendar No. 128, S. 623; Calendar No. 626, S. 4451; Calendar No. 635, S. 4974; Calendar No. 298, S. 2020; Calendar No. 606, S. 3617; Calendar No. 632, S. 4851; Calendar No. 608, S. 3790; and Calendar No. 591, S. 2784.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills, en bloc.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments, where applicable, be agreed to; that the bills as amended, if amended, be considered read a third time and passed; that the committee-reported title amendment to S. 3790 be considered and agreed to; that the title of S. 3790, as amended, be considered and agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bills passed, en bloc, as follows:

AMENDING THE ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO AGED, BLIND, OR DISABLED ALASKA NATIVES OR DESCENDANTS OF ALASKA NATIVES FROM BEING USED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS

The bill (S. 623) to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 623

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS.

Section 29(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1626(c)) is amend-

ed, in the undesignated matter following paragraph (3), by striking subparagraph (E) and inserting the following:

“(E) an interest in a Settlement Trust or an amount distributed from or benefit provided by a Settlement Trust to a Native or descendant of a Native who is an aged, blind, or disabled individual (as defined in section 1614(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(a)).”.

REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF STRATEGIES FOR EQUITABLE RESERVATIONS FOR VISITOR EXPERIENCES FEDERAL LAND ACT

The bill (S. 4451) to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Review and Evaluation of Strategies for Equitable Reservations for Visitor Experiences Federal Land Act” or the “RESERVE Federal Land Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BOOKING WINDOW.**—The term “booking window”, with respect to a Federal reservation system, means the time period during which a reservation or lottery entry is available to the public.

(2) **FEDERAL LAND.**—The term “Federal land” means—

(A) public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702));

(B) National Forest System land;

(C) units of the National Park System;

(D) units of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

(E) sites administered by the Bureau of Reclamation; and

(F) sites administered by the Corps of Engineers.

(3) **FEDERAL RESERVATION SYSTEM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “Federal reservation system” means any platform or method used by managers of Federal land to manage the quantity, type, distribution, and timing of recreational activities.

(B) **INCLUSIONS.**—The term “Federal reservation system” includes reservation, permit, lottery, metering, pricing, merit-based, and other similar management methods via online, telephone, paper, in-person, or other methods.

(4) **RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY.**—The term “recreational activity” includes camping, backpacking, climbing, paddling sports, fishing, hiking, driving, and other recreational opportunities.

(5) **SECRETARIES.**—The term “Secretaries” means—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior;

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(C) the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDY OF FEDERAL RESERVATION SYSTEMS FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ON FEDERAL LAND.

(a) **STUDY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretaries, acting jointly, shall, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study of Federal reservation systems for recreational activities on Federal land.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In carrying out the study under paragraph (1), the National Academy of

Sciences shall consult with the Secretaries to carry out the following:

(A) A review of the history of Federal reservation systems, such as recreation.gov, including a review of—

(i) the considerations, including data, that led to the establishment of the applicable Federal reservation system;

(ii) the iterations of the applicable Federal reservation system over time to meet the needs of the applicable Federal agency;

(iii) any visitor feedback provided with respect to the applicable Federal reservation system; and

(iv) scientific literature or studies examining the efficacy of Federal reservation systems, including user preferences with respect to Federal reservation system design and implementation.

(B) Based on available data and existing research, answer the following questions:

(i) What are the benefits and challenges of implementing Federal reservation systems to achieve management goals for Federal land, including resource protection, enjoyable visitor experiences, and sustainable operations and facility use?

(ii) What data are available, and what additional data are needed, to understand demand for recreation on Federal land? How can the data be used to balance visitor management and conservation goals?

(iii) What information is available regarding Federal land users and Federal reservation system users? What information is available or needs to be collected regarding demographics and characteristics of successful and unsuccessful applicants using the Federal reservation systems?

(iv) Do Federal reservation systems pose a barrier for certain communities, including international communities, and user groups to access appropriate recreation opportunities on Federal land? If so, what is the nature of any barriers identified?

(v) What best practices should be considered in Federal reservation system design, including visitation management system options and booking windows, options to respond to the needs specific to individual Federal land management units, and equitable access to recreational activities? What metrics can be used to record outcomes of Federal reservation system design?

(vi) How have fees been collected for Federal reservation systems over time to meet the needs of the applicable Federal agency? How are the revenues from fees for Federal reservation systems split between, and spent by, Federal land units, Federal agencies, and third-party contractors? How is the fee structure disseminated to users? How could dissemination of information with respect to the fee structure be improved?

(vii) What are the odds of success with respect to securing a reservation under Federal reservation systems? How are the odds of success disseminated to users? How could dissemination of information with respect to the odds of success be improved?

(viii) How are data, including data collected by contractors, on Federal reservation systems shared with Federal land managers, researchers, and the public? How can transparency be improved to inform the decisionmaking of users of Federal reservation systems?

(ix) How are Federal reservation systems incorporating and adapting to emerging technologies, such as geofencing, bots, or third-party websites monitoring and reselling reservations? Are Federal reservation systems resilient to cyber threats?

(x) How can Federal reservation systems be improved to reduce “no shows” and ensure that recreation sites are being used during periods of high demand? Would an increase in first-come, first-served opportunities increase equitable access to outdoor recreation on Federal land?

(b) **REPORT.**—The agreement entered into under subsection (a)(1) shall include a requirement that, not later than 18 months after the

date on which the agreement is entered into, the National Academy of Sciences shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study carried out under that subsection.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 4451), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### AMENDING THE JOHN D. DINGELL, JR. CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT, AND RECREATION ACT TO REAUTHORIZE THE NATIONAL VOLCANO EARLY WARNING AND MONITORING SYSTEM

The bill (S. 4974) to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to reauthorize the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 4974

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL VOLCANO EARLY WARNING AND MONITORING SYSTEM.

(a) MODERNIZATION ACTIVITIES.—Section 5001(b)(2)(B) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C. 31k(b)(2)(B)) is amended by striking “Global Positioning System” and inserting “Global Navigation Satellite System”.

(b) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Section 5001(b)(3)(A) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C. 31k(b)(3)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii)(III), by inserting “(including new or existing cooperative agreements)” after “partnerships”; and

(2) in clause (iii)—

(A) in the clause heading, by striking “UPDATE” and inserting “UPDATES”; and

(B) in subclause (II)—

(i) in the subclause heading, by striking “UPDATE” and inserting “UPDATES”;

(ii) by striking “clause (i) to include” and inserting “clause (i)—

“(aa) to include”;

(iii) in item (aa) (as so designated), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(bb) not less frequently than once every 5 years after the date on which the management plan is submitted under that clause.”.

(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 5001(b)(3) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C. 31k(b)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall establish an implementation committee that shall—

“(i) include representatives of—

“(I) each State agency or designee of a State agency subject to a cooperative agreement entered into under subparagraph (C);

“(II) institutions of higher education; and

“(III) each volcano observatory described in paragraph (1)(B)(i); and

“(ii) be responsible for providing to the Secretary recommended requirements, im-

plementation steps, and performance standards for the System.”.

(d) COORDINATION.—Section 5001(b)(3)(D) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C. 31k(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (ii) through (iv) as clauses (iii) through (v), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

“(ii) the Chief of the Forest Service;”.

(e) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 5001(c) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C. 31k(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “\$55,000,000” and inserting “\$75,000,000”; and

(B) by striking “2023” and inserting “2033”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “2024” and inserting “2034”.

#### DESCHUTES RIVER CONSERVANCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

The bill (S. 2020) to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2020

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Deschutes River Conservancy Reauthorization Act of 2023”.

#### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF DESCHUTES RIVER CONSERVANCY WORKING GROUP.

(a) DEFINITION OF WORKING GROUP.—Section 301(a) of the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009-534; 122 Stat. 836) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) WORKING GROUP.—The term ‘Working Group’ means the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group composed of a board of directors of not fewer than 10, but not more than 15, members nominated by the group represented by the member, of whom—

“(A) 2 members shall be representatives of the environmental community in the Deschutes River Basin;

“(B) 2 members shall be representatives of the irrigated agriculture community in the Deschutes River Basin;

“(C) 2 members shall be representatives of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon;

“(D) 1 member shall be a representative of the hydroelectric production community in the Deschutes River Basin;

“(E) 1 member shall be a representative of 1 of the Federal agencies with authority and responsibility in the Deschutes River Basin;

“(F) 1 member shall be a representative of an agency of the State of Oregon with authority and responsibility in the Deschutes River Basin, such as—

“(i) the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; or

“(ii) the Oregon Water Resources Department; and

“(G) 1 member shall be a representative of a unit of local government in the Deschutes River Basin.”.

(b) REAUTHORIZATION; ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 301 of the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009-534; 122 Stat. 836) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “2016” and inserting “2032”; and

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “5 percent” and inserting “10 percent”; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking “2016” and inserting “2032”.

#### CAPE FOX LAND ENTITLEMENT FINALIZATION ACT OF 2024

The bill (S. 3617) to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Cape Fox Land Entitlement Finalization Act of 2024”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CAPE FOX.—The term “Cape Fox” means the Cape Fox Village Corporation, a Village Corporation for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land” means the approximately 180 acres of surface land within the Tongass National Forest in the State of Alaska, as generally depicted on the Map.

(3) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map entitled “Cape Fox Village Corporation Final Selection” and dated December 18, 2023.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

#### SEC. 3. WAIVER OF CORE TOWNSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN LAND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 16(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1615(b)), Cape Fox shall not be required to select or receive conveyance of the approximately 185 acres of unconveyed land described in subsection (b) located within the township in which the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, is located.

(b) LAND DESCRIBED.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is as follows:

(1) Approximately 40 acres in T. 74 S., R. 90 E., sec. 10, SWNE, Copper River Meridian.

(2) Approximately 144.57 acres in T. 75 S., R. 91 E., sec. 1, lots 1, 3, and 4, Copper River Meridian.

#### SEC. 4. SELECTION OUTSIDE EXTERIOR SELECTION BOUNDARY.

(a) SELECTION AND CONVEYANCE OF SURFACE ESTATE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, if Cape Fox submits to the Secretary a written notice of selection of the Federal land, the Secretary shall, on receiving that written notice, convey the Federal land to Cape Fox.

(b) CONVEYANCE OF SUBSURFACE ESTATE.—On conveyance to Cape Fox of the surface estate to the Federal land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall convey to Sealaska Corporation the subsurface estate to that Federal land.

(c) TIMING.—It is the intent of Congress that the Secretary complete the conveyances to Cape Fox and Sealaska Corporation under subsections (a) and (b), respectively, as soon as practicable after the date on which the Secretary receives a written notice of the selection of Cape Fox under subsection (a), but not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary receives that written notice.